

REMARKS

Claims 3, 6, 7 and 9 have been amended. Claims 1-16 remain for further consideration. No new matter has been added.

The objection and rejections shall be taken up in the order presented in the Official Action.

1-2. Claims 1, 2 and 16 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for allegedly being obvious in view of the U.S. Patent 5,313,660 to Lindenmeier et al (hereinafter "Lindenmeier").

CLAIMED INVENTION

Claim 1 of the present invention recites a mobile receiving device, which includes "*at least two channel selection devices for converting the video/audio high-frequency signals into intermediate frequency signals*" and "*an intermediate frequency switching device that selectively connects said at least one of said audio demodulation devices or at least one of said video demodulation devices to a selected one of said channel selection devices in response to a control signal.*" (emphasis added, cl. 1). The mobile receiving device of claim 1 is directed to mobile television receivers for use in a motor vehicle.

CITED PRIOR ART

Lindenmeier discloses an antenna diversity system that includes a plurality of antennas ($A_1, A_2, \dots A_N$) connected to an antenna distributor, which is in turn connected

to a plurality of antenna switches (2a, 2b, 2c, 2d). Each antenna switch is in turn connected to a tuner (4a, 4b, 4c, or 4d) and a diversity processor (9a, 9b, 9c, or 9d). Notably, according to the embodiment shown in FIG. 8, the tuner 4a includes an IF converter and a demodulator.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CLAIMED INVENTION & REFERENCE

Claim 1 recites a mobile receiving device for receiving video/audio high frequency signals. The mobile receiving device includes:

“at least two channel selection devices for converting the video/audio high-frequency signals into intermediate frequency signals;
at least two video demodulation devices to convert said intermediate frequency signals into video signals;
at least two audio demodulation devices to convert said intermediate frequency signals into audio signals; and
an intermediate frequency switching device that selectively connects said at least one of said audio demodulation devices or at least one of said video demodulation devices to a selected one of said channel selection devices in response to a control signal.” (emphasis added, cl. 1)

Noticeably, claim 1 recites that the at least two channel selection devices are located upstream of the intermediate frequency switching device. The Official Action contends that the claimed at least two channel selection devices and the at least two video demodulation devices read on the tuners 4a-4d disclosed in Lindenmeier (see Official Action, pg. 2). The Official Action further contends that the “*at least two audio demodulation devices to convert said intermediate frequency signals into audio signals, is met by audio demodulators 4b, 4c, and 4d, fig. 7;*”. (Official Action, pg. 3). The Official Action recognizes that Lindenmeier fails to disclose an intermediate frequency switching device as recited in claim 1. However, the Official Action then contends that a

person of ordinary skill at the time of the claimed invention would have been motivated to modify Lindenmeier to include such an intermediate frequency switching device. (see Official Action, pg. 3).

LINDENMEIER DOES NOT SUGGEST AN INTERMEDIATE FREQUENCY SWITCHING DEVICE

If we assume for the moment, without admitting, that a prima facie case of obviousness has been established, this rejection is improper since Lindenmeier does not suggest an intermediate frequency switching device. Specifically, in the system of claim 1 the intermediate frequency switching device is located between the at least two channel selection devices that each provide IF signals and the at least one of the demodulation devices. In contrast, Lindenmeier performs the HF to IF conversion downstream of the switching device -- whereas the system set forth in claim 1 performs the HF to IF conversion upstream of the intermediate frequency switching device. The Official Action contends that the at least two channel selection devices and the at least two video demodulation devices set forth in claim 1 read on the tuners 4a-4d disclosed in Lindenmeier (see Official Action, pg. 2). However, based upon the construction set forth in the Official Action the tuners in FIG. 7 are alleged to perform the functions of: (i) the at least two channel selection devices, (ii) the at least two video demodulation devices and (iii) the at least two audio demodulation devices. Significantly, the Official Action even admits that “[t]he tuner circuits comprises (as shown in FIG. 8) IF converters and demodulators.” (Official Action, pg. 3). Such a construction is clearly incapable of rendering claim 1 of the present invention obvious since claim 1 of the present invention recites a system where the intermediate frequency switching device **is located between**

the at least two channel selection devices and one of the audio or video demodulation devices. Lindenmeier neither discloses nor suggests such a configuration.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Lindenmeier is incapable of rendering claim 1 obvious.

Claim 12 recites a television receiving device for use in a motor vehicle. The receiving device includes:

“at least two television channel selection devices for converting received high-frequency signals into intermediate frequency signals;

at least two video demodulation devices to convert said intermediate frequency signals into video signals;

at least two audio demodulation devices to convert said intermediate frequency signals into audio signals, wherein each of said audio demodulation devices includes an associated field strength detector and provides a field strength signal indicative thereof; and

a first switching device that receives said intermediate frequency signals and routes each of said intermediate frequency signals to an associated one of said video demodulation devices and an associated one of said audio demodulation devices.” (emphasis added, cl. 12).

Significantly, the first switching device of claim 12 receives the intermediate frequency signals and selectively routes these IF signals to the demodulation devices. As set forth above, a fair and proper reading of Lindenmeier reveals that this prior art reference simply routes HF signals from the switches to the tuners. Significantly, in FIG. 7 of Lindenmeier the lines running from the switches to the tuners are even labeled “HF”. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Lindenmeier is incapable of rendering claim 12 obvious.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 16 is patentable for at least the reasons set forth above.

3. Claims 3-8 and 13-14 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for allegedly being obvious over Lindenmeier in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,141,536 to Cvetkovic et al ("Cvetkovic").

The Examiner's rejection does not list claim 12. Claim 12 is, however, discussed in the body of the rejection. Applicants believe this to be a typographical error and have responded accordingly.

It is respectfully submitted that this rejection is now moot since the independent claims are patentable for at least the reasons set forth above.

4. The new grounds of rejection are noted.

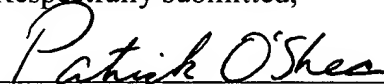
5. The indication that claims 9-11 and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims is noted and appreciated.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the provisional allowance of claims 9-11 and 15. As stated above, however, applicants have traversed the rejection of the underlying base claim and any intervening claims for each of claims 9-11 and 15. Consequently, claims 9-11 and 15 are believed to be allowable.

For all the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-16 is respectfully requested.

If a telephone interview could assist in the prosecution of this application, please call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patrick O'Shea", is written over a horizontal line.

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